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Travel Daily on location in Doha, Qatar

Today's issue of TD is coming to you courtesy of MSC Cruises, ahead of the naming ceremony of *MSC World Europa* this weekend.

ANTICIPATION is building as dignitaries from around the globe gather on board *MSC World Europa* ahead of her naming ceremony celebration this Sun evening.

Today, guests are spending their first full day enjoying the next-generation cruise experience of the vessel - relaxing in the scenic Panorama Lounge, checking out the futuristic Luna Park Arena, and eating in the 13 dining venues.

Those looking for an adrenalin rush can be found screaming down the 11-deck-high slide, The Venom Drop @ The Spiral.

QF launches SAF coalition

QANTAS has launched the Sustainable Aviation Fuel Coalition (SAF Coalition) program, offering businesses a new way to cut down on their emissions by using greener fuels.

The carrier has formed the new initiative with five foundation members, including Australia Post, Boston Consulting Group, KPMG Australia, Macquarie Group and Woodside Energy.

Members will pay a premium to reduce 900 tonnes of air carbon emissions annually, in doing so contributing to the cost of SAF in exchange of other reduction methods such as carbon offsets.

Qantas will use the additional funding generated by the coalition to help cover the costs of up to 10 million litres of SAF sourced by the airline at London's Heathrow Airport, which currently represents around 15% of the fuel needed to power flights departing London, and

from 2025, a further 20 million litres each year sourced out of Los Angeles and San Francisco.

Qantas Group CEO Alan Joyce said the strong demand for SAF from corporate Australia will be a key driver of local biofuel development needed to make the greener aviation fuels scalable.

"The demand for SAF has never been higher but supply is lagging well behind, particularly without a local industry in Australia, and that's keeping prices several times more expensive than traditional jet kerosene," he said.

Foundation members will also receive enhanced reporting on the emissions from their flying activity and their employees will get fast-tracked access to Qantas Frequent Flyer's Green Tier program.

Together with Airbus, Qantas committed to invest up to US\$200 million to get a local SAF industry off the ground in Jun (**TD** 13 Sep).

Today's issue of TD

Travel Daily today features nine pages of news plus a cover wrap for tickets to **Still "Still Standing"** & a full page from **Abercrombie & Kent**.

Discover more A&K

AGENTS are being invited to rediscover in person the exciting world of Abercrombie & Kent in Perth and Adelaide.

Events will take place in each city later this month and will offer attendees the chance to win prizes and find out the latest news - see **page 10** for details.

A few tickets left!

THERE'S still time to pick up some tickets for a major celebration of the travel sector taking place in Sydney on 07 Dec.

Travel Daily's We're Still "Still Standing" event costs \$70 to attend at the Four Seasons Hotel - see the **front page** for details.

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Custodian could be you!

THE Australian Federation of Travel Agents (AFTA) is now accepting expressions of interest from the industry for the five positions sought for the NTIA Custodians Council (**TD 03 Nov**).

The online form asks applicants to answer two questions in 400 words or less, putting forward why the candidate believes they would be an exceptional NTIA Custodian recruit, as well as what experience, if applicable, they have with regard to managing an awards program.

AFTA CEO Dean Long said that while the new jobs will no doubt provide a key impetus in making the NTIAs event better each year, it was also important that travel professionals don't feel they are underqualified to throw their hats in the ring to be a Custodian.

"While the NTIAs represents an immensely popular celebration for the travel industry, we're calling on travel professionals

to self-nominate and not just assume someone else can do a better job than they can," he said.

"AFTA isn't choosing NTIA Custodians in the same way we would select an NTIA Award winner - this is a new process for us too," Long added.

AFTA noted that applicants will be chosen taking a number of factors into consideration, not just the EOI responses, with the goal to build a representative council that can work together to preserve the integrity of the NTIAs while making next year's event a night to remember.

The application form is also designed to be readily accessible and easy to use, with Long encouraging people to urge entries from bashful candidates.

"If you know a shy travel professional, I encourage you to encourage them to put their hands up," he said.

Access the EOI page [HERE](#).

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Pursuit in Australia

AZAMARA has unveiled 44 new voyages as part of its 2024/25 program, with *Azamara Pursuit* confirmed as undertaking Australian sailings from Dec 2024.

For three months, the vessel will offer various sailings from Perth, Melbourne, Sydney, New Zealand and Polynesia, and will follow seasons operated by *Azamara Journey* and *Onward* in the preceding 2023/24 season.

Other adventures featured in the latest release includes *Onward's* 2025 World Voyage - more details [HERE](#).

Expedia backs Accor

EXPEDIA Group's White Label Template has been selected by Accor to power its new Flight + Hotel site.

The template solution will launch in Australia later this year, and will enable travellers to book & earn points on flight packages, through Accor's loyalty program.



Window Seat

WHILE few people working in travel will need a reminder of the sheer power of a Boeing 777 engine, it can be fun to see it illustrated in new and unusual ways all the same.

Just take a recent video posted up on Twitter by aviation-loving account @aviationish, which shows a plane in the desert flipping a giant truck over.

Apart from creating a biblical sand storm in the process, the images are a certainly an advertisement for the brute power of modern aviation.

See the video [HERE](#).



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South African Society

SOUTH African Tourism has nominated female-led creative agency Society Studios to oversee its public relations and social activity in the Australian market over the next three months.

The agency already looks after media and communications for the South Australian Tourism Commission.

Frequent flyer numbers exposed

AROUND 2,800 Virgin Australia loyalty members have been affected following the Medibank hack, after the carrier was notified that some Velocity Frequent Flyer membership numbers may have been compromised.

As a precautionary measure, the airline has locked the accounts of impacted members, and is in the process of creating new membership numbers for them.

Six Senses Aussie debut

SIX Senses Hotels Resorts Spas will open its first Australian property in the Dandenong Ranges east of Melbourne in 2025 (**TD** breaking news yesterday).

A new master plan for Six Senses Burnham Beeches includes a restoration of the property's namesake mansion, and an extra collection of venues, including a Village Square.

The Burnham Beeches, Sherbooke "streamline-moderne" mansion features a 22-hectare estate designed for the Nicholas "Aspro" family in 1933, and will initially open with 43 guest accommodations.

The master plan also incorporates a premium glamping offering, which, subject to planning applications, will bring the total accommodations to 82.

Burnham Beeches will include a welcome lounge & terrace, a

restaurant with outdoor seating, a library bar, and a rooftop retreat encased by garden planters.

Guest rooms will feature individual layouts, and will be spread over Burnham Beeches' three main wings.

There will also be a separate two-bedroom cottage with an interconnecting one-bedroom suite within the Hilltop Retreat.

A tactile nature playground is planned as part of the 'Grow With Six Senses' approach to connecting children with nature through interactive learning.

Six Senses Spa on the lower ground level of Burnham Beeches will provide a botanical environment housing a welcome lounge & boutique, a tea lounge, treatment rooms, a gym, a hydro area & sauna, comfy relaxation spaces, and a separate pool house complex accommodating an 'Earth Lab'.

Discova appoints

JAMES Munro has been appointed by Flight Centre Travel Group's (FCTG) DMC business, Discova, as its new Global Director of Product.

He has held a number of senior leadership positions in the industry over the last 25 years, including his most recent role at FCTG's Ignite Travel Group as Product Development Director.

Munro replaces Susan Ogden, who is joining FCTG's wholesale brand GOGO Vacations as its new Executive Vice President.

EY submerges deal

ETIHAD Airways has partnered with The National Aquarium Abu Dhabi to allow members of the airline's frequent flyer program to instantly earn and spend Etihad Guest Miles through the Etihad Guest App when visiting the aquarium, which is the largest in the Middle East.

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Sydney one day, London the next!



CONTIKI Global CEO, Adam Armstrong (**pictured**), this week appeared on a panel at World Travel Market in London - fresh from a week in Australia catching up with The Travel Corporation's trade partners (**TD 21 Oct**).

Prior to departing Sydney, he told **Travel Daily** the Contiki brand was rebounding swiftly from the pandemic, with the youth segment particularly keen

to get on the road again.

However the changing distribution landscape has meant a significant shift in some markets, with the demise of STA Travel in particular impacting UK trade sales for Contiki.

Key global trends for the youth brand include booking longer trips and spending more on add-ons, as well as a big increase in on-road bookings for future trips.

EK record profit

EMIRATES Group has reported a US\$1.2 billion (AED4.2 billion) profit for the first six months of its 2022/23 financial year, a massive turnaround from the US\$1.6 billion loss in the previous corresponding period.

Revenue more than doubled to US\$15.3 billion, driven by exceptional demand and the further easing and removal of pandemic travel restrictions.

The period saw connectivity enhanced with new codeshare and interline agreements introduced with United Airlines, Batik Air, Aegean, Air Baltic, Bamboo Airways, Air Canada, Royal Air Maroc, Finnair and more, with Emirates carrying 20 million passengers between 01 Apr and 30 Sep 2022, with an average load factor of 78.5%.

CEO Sheikh Ahmed bin Saeed Al Maktoum said the record was "the result of forward planning, agile business response, and the efforts of our talented workforce".

A-ROSA + Unique

UNIQUE Cruises has announced a partnership with A-ROSA River Cruises, with the wholesaler's Director, Walter Nand, saying since establishing the business he had been "searching for a European river cruise experience that delivers something unique for our market...I have found it with A-ROSA".

A-ROSA Regional Director, Birgit Eisbrenner, said Nand's knowledge of the sector, as well as his extensive Australasian connections, make Unique Cruises an ideal fit for the brand.

"A-ROSA offers a carefree, contemporary and customisable style of river cruising, so we're pleased to be working with a company with a similar passion for European river cruising," Eisbrenner said.

A-ROSA offers 13 vessels sailing on the Seine, Rhine, Moselle, Main, Danube, Saone, Rhone and Douro rivers along with special kids discounts - 02 8937 4038.

Information Sessions

What makes TravelManagers the **best** in the business?

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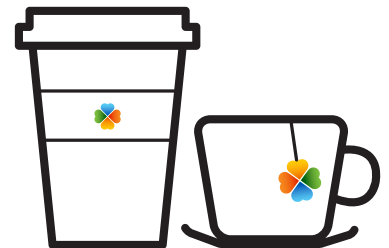
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Information sessions are being held from 14 – 28 November 2022 in the following locations:

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- Hobart
- Melbourne
- Central Coast
- Adelaide
- Wollongong
- Perth

Can't make the above sessions? Other dates and locations including regional, are available by appointment. All sessions are confidential and obligation free.

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A taste of what's to come



DELEGATES from the Australian travel industry have converged on Doha this week, joining thousands of media and trade partners from around the globe ahead of the naming ceremony of *MSC World Europa* this weekend.

Guests will embark the vessel this evening before enjoying dinner on board at one of the 33 restaurants, bars and lounges.

World Europa features immersive culinary experiences,

promising to transport cruise guests on a gastronomic journey around the globe.

To get ready for the next few days of dining delights, trade partners have enjoyed a lunch of traditional Arab cuisine at the beautiful Yasmine Palace Restaurant (**pictured**) on The Pearl Island in Doha.

MSC World Europa will spend her inaugural season travelling the Arabian Gulf.

Electric planes for Outback

CARBON emission-free flying is set to come to the Northern Territory, with Washington State-based Eviation confirming a Letter of Intent for the purchase of 20 Alice all-electric commuter aircraft from regional charter, scenic flight and scheduled operator Northern Territory Air Services (NTAS).

The Eviation Alice (**pictured**) is the "first flight-proven all-electric commuter aircraft of its scale", with capacity for nine passengers, or about 1,300kg of cargo.

The aircraft uses an electric propulsion system developed by a company called magni-X, and produces zero carbon emissions "and costs a fraction to operate per flight hour compared to light jets or high-end turboprops".

The Eviation Alice has a typical flight operating range of 250km-400km, the manufacturer said.

Alice Springs-based NTAS provides a link for passengers



connecting to and from remote ports to Alice Springs, Mount Isa and Ayers Rock airports.

The airline's CEO, Ian Scheyer, said the new aircraft "provides us with the opportunity to chart a sustainable path forward in connecting communities across the country".

The prototype Eviation Alice first flew in late Sep this year, with the aircraft continuing to undergo development and testing and a projected entry into service for the first plane in 2027.

Other carriers to have ordered Eviation Alices include DHL Express, Cape Air and GlobalX.

Human Resource Manager

Ikara Wilpena Enterprises (IWE) is a unique property and is the only accommodation located within the Ikara- Flinders Ranges National Park, 430km north of Adelaide. A haven of outback hospitality, Wilpena Pound Resort offers a swag of [accommodation](#), [dining](#) and [touring](#) options. This extraordinary landscape includes 800-million-year-old fossils unique in the world and has been home to the Adnyamathanha people for tens of thousands of years.

IWE have an exciting opportunity for an experienced, highly motivated, and enthusiastic individual to join their team as a [Human Resource Manager](#) at this stunning property. This newly created role will be responsible for all human resources activities and projects, including implementing contemporary HR policies and processes across the Ikara Wilpena Resort. This role will be integral to developing a resilient and capable workforce with a strong Adnyamathanha Yura presence.

You will develop a genuine connection with the region and community as you assist with the recruitment, development and succession of the local Adnyamathanha Yura and other First Nations People. This role is ideal for someone who is aligned with the strong cultural and spiritual significance of the First Nations People.

You must have the ability to balance strategic and operational focus, with a hands-on approach together with the flexibility and maturity needed to live in a remote location. An attractive package including accommodation and meals will be offered to secure the best talent for this role. Confidential enquiries can be directed to Delinda Kalic or Jedda Gito at Morton Philips on (08) 8210 8510.



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Payment to be streamlined

BOOKING.COM and Amadeus have partnered to streamline the payment process between travel agencies and accommodation providers.

Amadeus travel advisors can now pay for Booking.com accommodations with their choice of 14 different card types, including credit, debit & pre-paid options, from a wider range of participating banks.

For travel agencies, the ability to use the new Amadeus B2B Wallet means they can set and manage priorities for how they pay the more than 1.3 million accommodations available.

The Amadeus B2B Wallet solution also reduces friction for travellers, who under the development, will no longer have to provide upfront payment information, or make a remittance at check-in or out.

The new solution automatically recommends the best payment

method for each individual stay within the booking flow, based on a wide range of payment options from leading participating banks.

“Our primary aim is to make every aspect of the travel experience easier and more streamlined for travellers and travel providers alike, including when it comes to payment options,” Booking.com Global Director for Partnerships Jeremy Cornuau explained.

Celebrity savings

CELEBRITY Cruises has kicked off its Black Friday sale early, with the offers going live today and running until 01 Dec.

Travellers can save up to 75% off their second guest’s cruise fare, with those booking an overseas escape also able to receive up to US\$400 onboard credit per stateroom and up to US\$600 flight credit - for further details, [CLICK HERE](#).

GC Airport expands international



GOLD Coast Airport’s new international terminal is now officially open, with Queensland Senator Murray Watt joining the CEO of Queensland Airports Amelia Evans yesterday for the ribbon-cutting ceremony.

The \$260 million terminal first opened to domestic flights in the first week of Sep, and yesterday welcomed its first international flight, with 320 passengers delivered via Scoot’s service from Singapore.

The three-level, 30,000m² expansion connects to the existing terminal, and includes six new gates to accommodate 19 aircraft on the tarmac, new border control facilities, four glass aerobridges, seven escalators and nine lifts, a departure lounge, and a new baggage handling area.

The new terminal also boasts an extensive retail offering, with Heinemann Australia bringing its full product range to the Gold

Coast for the first time, including 40 new brands across wines, spirits, fragrance, confectionery, skincare, cosmetics, fashion and accessories.

New brand highlights include Gen Z favourite Kylie Cosmetics, in addition to Gucci, Chanel and Dior, which will offer their full cosmetics ranges at Gold Coast Airport for the first time.

Earlier this year, Heinemann Australia announced the extension of its duty-free concession contract at Gold Coast Airport until 2029, as well as the upcoming redevelopment and expansion of its shops.

Six-and-a-half million pax pass through the airport each year, with this number expected to grow in the lead-up to the 2032 Olympic Games in Brisbane.

Pictured: Queensland Airports CEO Amelia Evans and Murray Watt tickled pink at the ribbon-cutting ceremony.

Travel Daily On Board: MSC World Europa



Fizz - Champagne Bar

Sophisticated decor and panoramic views elevate the experience of sipping on bubbles on board *MSC World Europa*. This dedicated venue offers an elegant atmosphere to enjoy decadent Champagne and sparkling wine, while nibbling on a selection of caviar, chilled seafood and more.

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Old back to amber

FOLLOWING the arrival of the fourth wave of COVID-19 in Australia, the Queensland Government switched its COVID traffic light system from green to amber yesterday.

Queenslanders are being advised to wear masks in healthcare settings, on public transport and rideshares, in compacted indoor spaces, and when around vulnerable members of the community.

MH recruits in NZ

MALAYSIA Airlines announced the appointment of Ian Herald as Sales Account Manager of New Zealand, effective today.

Herald has held senior positions with a several airlines, including most recently at Cathay Pacific and Philippine Airlines.

Bamboo sets up shop

BAMBOO Airways officially opened its Sydney office this week at Sydney Airport's Terminal 1 International, just the latest development in the Hanoi-based carrier's local expansion plans.

The Vietnamese airline launched its twice-weekly Sydney to Ho Chi Minh City service in Mar (**TD 07 Mar**), and in the same month appointed a National Sales Manager of Australia and New Zealand (**TD 24 Mar**).



RSSC keeps guests on their toes



REGENT Seven Seas Cruises (RSSC) invited a number of lucky guests to the opening night of the Australian Ballet's *Instruments of Dance* at the Sydney Opera House last night.

The cruise line in Apr announced its multi-year partnership with The Australian Ballet, an association which underlines the cruise line's dedication to supporting the country's arts industry.

Guests were treated to the Australian Ballet's contemporary triple-bill, which sees resident choreographer Alice Topp team up with Justin Peck, the New York City Ballet's resident choreographer; and Wayne McGregor, resident choreographer of The Royal Ballet

in London, respond to scores from modern-day composers.

Instruments of Dance consisted of McGregor's *Obsidian Tear*, set to Esa-Pekka Salonen's music; Topp's *Annealing*, to Bryony Marks; and Peck's *Everywhere We Go*, to Sufjan Stevens, and orchestrated to Michael P. Atkinson.

Pictured are RSSC's Vice President Global Consumer Sales Jessica Crlenjak, Senior Vice President & Managing Director Asia Pacific Steve Odell, and Asia-Pacific Vice President & General Manager Lisa Pile.

Neptune delivered

VIKING welcomed its newest ship, *Viking Neptune*, this morning at Fincantieri's shipyard in Ancona, Italy, where a delivery ceremony took place.

The delivery marked the cruise line's 15th new ship that it has added to its overall fleet this year, as it celebrates its 25th anniversary.

The newbuild begins her inaugural season next week, which will see her sail itineraries in the Mediterranean before embarking on Viking's 138-day world cruise in Dec.

Equipped with a small hydrogen fuel system, *Viking Neptune* is claimed to be the cruise industry's first ship to test the use of hydrogen power for onboard operations.

TM lands space gig

AS PART of TravelManagers Australia's alliance inked with Signature Travel Network earlier this year (**TD 03 Feb**), members of the travel agent network will now be able to sell trips into orbit with operator Space Perspective.

The company offers six-hour space flights taking off from the Kennedy Space Centre in the United States in an advanced balloon vessel, travelling up to 30km above the Earth's surface.

First flights will take off in 2024 and require a US\$1,000 deposit, with a total ticket cost of US\$125,000 - more details **HERE**.

TICKETS \$70

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CORPORATE UPDATE

Orbit sustainability system



ORBIT World Travel has partnered with Thrust Carbon to integrate new sustainability enhancements into its Orbit Enterprise platform.

The initiative (pictured) takes pre- and post-travel into account in a “visually meaningful way”, allowing travellers to easily keep track of their own personal carbon footprint.

Corporations can also obtain a company-wide view of carbon emissions, helping them to plot a unique path to net-zero.

Reed & Mackay expansion

REED & Mackay earlier this week settled the acquisition of its longstanding Spanish partner, Atlanta Events & Corporate Travel Consultants.

The move is the fourth Europe-based acquisition by Reed & Mackay parent company TripActions over the last 18 months, with deals also including the takeover of Reed & Mackay itself in May last year, followed by Comtravo in Germany and Resia in Sweden in early 2022.

The newly acquired Atlanta Events & Corporate Travel Consultants has offices in Andalucia, Madrid and Barcelona, with over 70 staff on its team.

The business was founded over 40 years ago, with Reed & Mackay CEO Fred Stratford saying Atlanta’s values “closely align with Reed & Mackay’s uncompromising focus on high-touch service”.

The Thrust Carbon methodologies extend far beyond air travel, incorporating the impact of hotel stays, car and rail travel, excursions, deliveries, raw materials processing and more.

The first phase has seen a calculator integrated into Orbit Enterprise’s Request and Trips function, presenting emissions data to help travellers and travel managers be better informed about the environmental impact of their travel choices.

“At Orbit we strongly believe in the power of technology to help drive better business decisions that have a positive impact on the environment,” said Orbit World Travel Founding Partner and Director, Lisa Story.

“Transport is responsible for 16% of global emissions, but travel is not going to stop.”

The Kudos Travel Technology platform which powers Orbit Enterprise also offers an industry benchmarking tool to give visibility into how similarly structured businesses in the same sectors are performing.

Story said “we are huge believers that people want to be more sustainable, but they don’t have the data and insights to help them lower their footprint”.

“Having this reporting will help accelerate that goal by providing meaningful insights to give travellers and travel managers the tools they need to reduce their footprint, and in turn to help reverse the clock on climate change,” she added.

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Travel Daily



FCM: fares to keep rising

THE continued mix of high fuel prices, inflation, reduced supply and reduced resourcing will see airlines continue to hike fares, according to a new report from Flight Centre Travel Group’s FCM Travel Consulting.

Based on global data sourced from FCM bookings for travel during the Jul-Sep 2022 quarter, the report cites some fascinating statistics and trends, including a 33% increase in long-haul international advance booking days compared to 2019, now jumping to 40 days.

Other key takeaways include mounting costs due to slow approvals for travel, with inefficient processes meaning the cheapest fares requiring instant ticketing cannot be booked.

Approvals taking too long also sometimes saw ticketing time limits expire, requiring rebooking at a higher fare.

North American continues to lead the airline capacity recovery, but FCM noted that last month many airlines reduced schedules for the coming months as demand levelled out.

FCM Meeting & Events said demand for in-person gatherings surged, as clients cited virtual meeting fatigue and the need to strengthen company culture and increase employee engagement.

Accommodation rates in

Australia and New Zealand have stabilised and are forecast to remain flat moving into the fourth quarter of the year.

FCM also asked corporate clients whether they were planning to offset, reduce or stop travel to combat global warming, with 11% saying they would reduce their travel, 27% citing their carbon offset program, 47% of respondents being unsure, and 4% planning to eliminate travel.

GBTA green plans

THE Global Business Travel Association (GBTA) is planning to establish a “climate action plan and pathway for the industry” with a roadmap and concrete steps on how to decarbonise business travel.

The initiative was one of the key takeaways from the first-ever GBTA Sustainability Summit, which took place earlier this week in Brussels, Belgium.

About 300 global experts, travel industry and policy-leaders gathered for the one-day event, with Delphine Milot, GBTA Senior VP of Sustainability, saying “the level of engagement at this inaugural event shows that our industry and others recognise that a collective approach to sustainability is critical - and taking action is of the utmost importance”.

“For GBTA, building a greener future means championing industry efforts, developing and scaling solutions and tools, and ultimately eliminating the carbon footprint of business travel so people and businesses can continue to connect,” she said.

As well as establishing the climate action plan, GBTA’s key sustainability priorities for 2023 include advocating with policymakers for investments in green technologies and Sustainable Aviation Fuel, as well as better multimodality and a single global standard to calculate emissions for business travel.

Messinis finishes up

OUTGOING BCD Travel Australia MD Tass Messinis officially wrapped up his role this week after eight years leading the local operation (**TD** 12 Aug).

Messinis, who is also Chair of the Association of Travel Management Companies, thanked colleagues, partners and clients, saying “being part of BCD Travel’s success and seeing the company grow into a key market leader in the Australian corporate travel sector is something I feel immensely proud to have been a part of”.

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TRAVEL SPECIALS



WELCOME to Travel Specials, *Travel Daily's* Friday feature. If your firm has released a travel special you'd like to make the industry aware of, send the details to specials@traveldaily.com.au

Cruise Travellers is offering a saving of \$965 per person on Fred. Olsen Cruise Lines' 20-night Northern Lights and Iceland Sights package, now priced at \$9,985 twin-share, for bookings made before 30 Nov. The package includes return flights to UK from Sydney, Brisbane, Melbourne, Adelaide or Perth, plus a night's stay pre-cruise in Newcastle, England; 19-night round-trip voyage from Newcastle to Norway and Iceland; and drinks package - contact 1800 507 777 to book.

AirAsia has launched its biggest-ever seat sale, offering seven million discounted seats starting from under \$10. Travellers can fly longer haul to/from Perth, Tokyo, Taipei and more from under \$160 each way. The sale ends 13 Nov, with a travel period from 01 May 2023 to 30 Mar 2023 - visit airasia.com for more details.

Couples can save up to \$300 on **Entire Travel Group's** Switzerland packages, including the four-day Swiss Lakes and Mountains rail journey. Contact 02 9094 3322 to book before 30 Nov.

Seabourn is offering an additional 25% saving on selected 2022-23 Australia, New Zealand and Asia itineraries like the 14-day Thailand, Vietnam and Malaysia sail. Visit seabourn.com to book by 12 Nov.

Sixt record revenue

SIXT experienced its strongest-ever quarter for this year's third quarter, growing its consolidated revenue by 25% to €997.1 million from Jul to Sep compared to the same period last year.

For the first nine months of this year, the global car rental company recorded a 42% increase in revenue to €2.32 billion and a 59.5% increase in earnings before tax to €506.3 million compared to the same period in 2021.

For the 2022 financial year, Sixt is still predicting a consolidated revenue of between €2.8 to €3.1 billion, and also continues to expect its consolidated earnings to be at the upper end of €500 to €550 million range.

Samoa Survives!

THE upcoming *Australian Survivor: Heroes v Villains* tv show is set to return to Samoa's island of Upola, where the popular reality series was filmed in 2016 and 2017.

The first trailer for the show, which will air in Jan on Channel 10, was released this week, and showcases the island via ocean and mountain aerial footage, revealing where 12 former contestants will battle it out.

"We are excited to welcome back the *Australian Survivor* crew...we look forward to sharing a piece of our beautiful Samoa with the rest of the world as they watch on next year," the Samoa Tourism Authority said.

Build tourism back better



THE Cook Islands and American Samoa demonstrated their commitment to being part of regional sustainable tourism at the Pacific Sustainable Tourism Leadership Summit in the Cook Islands last week.

The two destinations became the 12th and 13th Pacific Tourism Organisation (SPTO) members to sign the Pacific Leader's Sustainable Tourism Commitment, joining the Islands of Tahiti, Samoa, New Caledonia, and several more.

During the signing, Cook Islands Associate Minister of Tourism Tingika Elikana said the Pacific

tourism industry can build back better to become more resilient, inclusive and sustainable, with the right recognition and long-term support.

The Council also emphasised its commitment to supporting SPTO in its efforts to strengthen regional air connectivity.

Pictured: SPTO leaders at the Pacific Sustainable Tourism Leadership Summit.

EK Gulf deal

EMIRATES has signed a codeshare deal with Gulf Air, offering easy connections and new destination options for Gulf Air customers from Dec, including Budapest, Prague, Warsaw, Algeria, Tunis, Bali, Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City, Taipei and Sao Paulo.

El Al to Dublin

EL AL Israel Airlines announced it will introduce flights to Dublin on 26 Mar, after delaying the planned route launch by almost three years due to the pandemic.

The service will operate three-times weekly on Tue, Thu and Sun via Boeing 737-800 aircraft.

The Israel flag carrier said the Dublin route offers a new sun destination for Irish travellers, and will also appeal to business travellers given both Tel Aviv and Dublin have strong tech sectors.

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